

**FICA Minutes  
June 8, 2009**

A distance learning visioning meeting will be set up with the people that are mostly technical in nature who meet on a monthly basis and involve instructional leaders who need to be sure that the infrastructure being planned by the group will meet the instructional needs of the BOCES regions. Carol will check with Mark Banks to see if this meeting can be added to or replace the agenda for a currently scheduled monthly meeting this summer. Specific concerns are around the hardware upgrades being planned, Internet2 traffic and the growth of devices and video conferences.

A discussion of what is happening around credit recovery in the region was shared to see if there were areas in which to partner.

E2CC is using APEX with Alternative Education  
CA may need to hire teachers for Summer School  
Erie 1 districts are using their own teachers.  
ON has talked about using Accelerate U

A summer 2010 Leadership Conference was discussed instead or in conjunction with HSNF so that we can address needs of administrators across the board as well as emerging leaders or principals. There will be a discussion with the District Superintendents. We also want to be ready for any new initiatives that could grow out of federal improvement funds through stimulus. There is a question of whether or not these can be aidable as increased BOCES services. Carol will try to get an answer on this and communicate out. Many business officials are wanting some assurance.

There was discussion about response to intervention and a need to understand where all of the players fit in the larger picture. The RTI fair was helpful but needs to get to the districts more as well as the BOCES providers. More discussion about partnerships and companion service offerings will happen.

We continue to discuss the sharing or contract sharing of products such as Adobe Connect and Sametime so that quantity discounts can be applicable. CA BOCES is in a pilot at this time with E1BOCES sharing sametime IM server space for instant messaging within Notes email.

**Shared conferences:**

HSNF planning is going well.

The date next year for Ride the Digital Wave is March 26, 2009. Michelle Okal is checking into possible NYSCATE involvement with the technology directors on the committee to see if they feel this would be beneficial. It would assist with keynote costs and back office support. This could allow us to grow it if we wish to.

**Carol shared information about the Superintendent's Community from the recent workshop. There will be a growth of Instructional Communities and this growth will be shared with local BOCES staff since the districts will want all staff development activity to be referenced / discussed in these communities. This is another collaborative effort. The training offered to the Superintendents could also be done by the local BOCES as well as the RIC.**

**Rosanne reviewed the data warehouse liaison structure for anyone who was not aware and reiterated that instructional staff needs to be involved as well in order to drive reporting needs of the region. WNYRIC is waiting on teacher level reports until we see what is happening in the reports being written off of Level 2. There will be quarterly meetings of the liaison group following WNYDIG.**

**There was a discussion around how we can collaboratively support the growth of teachers developing project based activities for students which would be important to one to one computing. We agreed this was a topic to keep discussing. Staff development is important to make sure that the projects are resulting in deeper understanding, not just an electronic way to do things.**

**We discussed the evolution of this committee and members expressed satisfaction with the content and what it has evolved to be. The conversation is rich with great ideas for service growth with much collaboration in order to share best practice and make sure that the professional development offered to districts is sustaining their strategic initiatives. If specific topics are to be discussed, we would expand the group for those meetings to discuss topics related to their expertise.**

**The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday September 29, 2009 at 5:30 at Tantalus in East Aurora.**